

# REPORT

OF THE

## MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

OF THE

Stafford Rural District Council,

*For the Years 1916 and 1917.*

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EASTGATE,  
STAFFORD,  
*June, 1918.*

*To the Chairman and Members of the Stafford Rural District Council.*

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit a brief report of the health of the Stafford Rural District for the years 1916 and 1917.

### Population.

The population of the District has been estimated as under :—

	1916	1917
For Birth Rate ...	12,654	9,662
„ Death „ ...	11,630	8,668

NOTE.—The population of the Rural District for 1917 has been adjusted by the Registrar General, in view of the alteration of the boundary of the District, consequent upon the extension of the Borough of Stafford, April 1st, 1917, so that it is possible to show the birth and death-rate over the *whole year*, in place of having to estimate the figures for the first three months separately, before the alteration in the boundary took effect.

### Births.

The number of Birth registered in the District were :—

1916...234, equal to a rate of 18·4 per 1,000 of population.  
1917...185, „ „ „ 19·1 „ „ „

### Deaths (Civilians only).

The number of deaths registered during the two years were :—

**1916**...165, equal to a rate of 14·1 per 1000 of population.

**1917**...118     „     „     „     13·6     „     „     „

### Infantile Mortality.

The deaths of children under one year of age were :—

**1916**...20, equal to a rate of 85 per 1,000 births registered.

**1917**...15     „     „     „     81     „     „     „

### Causes of Death.

Some of the chief causes of deaths in the District during the two years were as under :—

			<b>1916.</b>			<b>1917.</b>
Cancer	...	...	11	...	...	16
Phthisis	...	...	15	...	...	6
Pneumonia	...	...	15	...	...	6
Bronchitis	...	...	7	...	...	10

### Zymotic Diseases.

Eighteen deaths have occurred from Zymotic Diseases :—

			<b>1916.</b>			<b>1917.</b>
Measles	...	...	1	...	...	1
Scarlet Fever	...	...	3	...	...	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	5	...	...	—
Diphtheria	...	...	3	...	...	4
Influenza	...	...	1	...	...	—

### Infectious Diseases.

The following cases of Infectious Disease were notified during 1916 and 1917.

This number does not include the notifications received of disease among the **Military** at Brocton Camp.

	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Enteric.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Puerperal Fever.	Epidemic Cerebro Spinal Meningitis.	Erysipelas.	Measles.
<b>1916</b>	74	36	20	3	1	2	—	2	<b>72</b>
<b>1917</b>	52	64	6	1	—	—	2	7	<b>104</b>



### **Epidemic Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.**

Two cases of this disease occurred in the District. One case occurred in a licensed house adjoining the Camp, and was probably contracted through the visits of the Military. The case proved fatal shortly after recognition. The house was immediately closed to the Military and other necessary precautions taken. The second case, which also proved fatal, occurred at a farm house from which milk was distributed to the military and civil population. Immediate steps were taken to safeguard this supply, and no subsequent case was traced to this source.

### **Water Testing.**

The Sanitary Inspector has submitted two samples of water for testing. Both of these were found to be unsuitable for drinking, and the necessary steps were taken to remedy this.

### **Maternal and Infant Welfare.**

A table is appended showing the work done under this head during 1917.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient servant,

**HERBERT MARSON,**

M.D., B.S. Durh., L.R.C.P. Lond., F.R.C.S. Eng.,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

# Maternity and Infant Welfare.

**Particulars relating to the work during the year ending 31st December, 1917.**

*Health Visitors: Five.*

*District: Stafford (Rural).*

Infants born in 1917									
Births			First Visits		Revisits		Total Visits.		
Registered	Notified		Expectant Mothers (4)	Children (5)	Expectant Mothers (6)	Children (7)			
	Alive (1)	Premature (2)						Stillborn (3)	
185	84	4	3	42	83	60	309	102	392

Children on Visiting List at end of 1917.		Deaths of Children on Visiting List during 1917				Welfare Centre			No. of cases of insanitary conditions reported to Medical Officer of Health.
Under One Year (10)	One Year and under five. (11)	Under ten days (12)	Over ten days and under one year (13)	One year and under five (14)	No. on books			Total No. of Attendances	
					Expectant Mothers (15)	Children (16)	Expectant Mothers (17)		
61	16	3	3	1	4	26	—	30	2